

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. +1069
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024**

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN MITHILA REGION

+1069 SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented any schemes/programs to provide assistance for the development of tourism in North Bihar (Mithila Region)**
- (b) whether there are dozens of historical and religious sites in Mithila region that need to be preserved, promoted and developed as tourist destinations, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of funds allocated by the Government to promote tourism in Bihar State during the last five years; and**
- (d) the district-wise and scheme-wise details of the projects sanctioned and funds allocated and utilized along with the outline of tourism development in Bihar State during the last five years?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Tourism through its ongoing central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'PRASHAD' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations. Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 05 projects for Rs.262.72 Crore and under PRASHAD scheme Ministry has already sanctioned 02 Projects for Rs.45.17 Crore in the State of Bihar. The details of the above mentioned projects are annexed.

The Ministry of Tourism has recently revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations, following a destination & tourism-centric approach. In consultation with the States/UTs and in line with the scheme guidelines, the Ministry has

accordingly identified 57 destinations in the country for development under SD 2.0 including 'Gaya' & 'Nalanda' in Bihar.

Further, the Ministry of Tourism has also issued guidelines for 'Challenge Based Destination Development' (CBDD), a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0, under which the Ministry of Tourism has identified 42 destinations for development including 'Bhagalpur' and 'Saran District (Sonepur Fair)' under Culture & Heritage Destinations category in the State of Bihar.

In order to promote tourism, the Ministry provides financial assistance to State Governments/UTs for organising Fairs & Festivals and Tourism Related Event. The Ministry has sanctioned Rs.25.00 Lakh each for Sonepur Fair and Rajgir Mahotsav in the year 2019-20.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.+1069 ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024 DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN MITHILA REGION RAISED BY SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR****(i) DETAIL OF PROJECTS SANCTIONED UNDER IDENTIFIED THEMATIC CIRCUITS OF SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME IN THE STATE OF BIHAR.****(Amount in ₹ crore)**

S. No.	State/ UT	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Amount Utilised
1.	Bihar	Tirthankar Circuit 2016-17	Development of Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Champapuri	33.96	30.04	29.36
2.	Bihar	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj - Dharmshala- Deoghar	44.76	42.52	42.17
3.	Bihar	Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Buddhist circuit- Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	95.18	95.18	93.22
4.	Bihar	Rural Circuit 2017-18	Development of Bhitiharwa- Chandraha- Turkaulia	44.27	40.31	39.96
5.	Bihar	Spiritual Circuit 2017-18	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh	44.55	42.32	42.32

(II) LIST OF PROJECTS SANCTIONED UNDER PRASHAD SCHEME IN THE STATE OF BIHAR

(Amount in ₹ crore)

State	Sl. No.	Project Name	Sanction Year	Approved Cost	Amount Released
Bihar	1	Development at Patna Sahib	2015-16	41.54	33.23
	2	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple	2014-15	3.63	3.63
